



QCWA HOT-LINE REPORT

JUNE - DECEMBER 1994

Volume 16, No. 2

President's Message

I would like to first thank all of the Chapters and individuals that supported me as their President. I promise to work hard to make QCWA a better and even stronger organization.

We have just concluded our annual Board meeting and much was accomplished. It was voted to grant 14 Memorial Scholarships this coming year. To that end please keep in mind that we need scholarship nominees. If you know of needy students who are radio amateurs, please consider sponsoring them. I might add that the odds of getting a scholarship last year was relatively small, only 5 to 1 so your nominee may have a good chance.

One of my goals as President is to have **every member get a member**. We have a fine new Journal and there is no reason we cannot at least double our membership -- but we need your help.

73,

Lew McCoy, WHICP
President, QCWA

The convention in El Paso was a great event and everyone enjoyed it very much. The accommodations and service were absolutely wonderful. The committee went out of their way to attend to the comfort of the attendees.

Best of all, everyone was talking to everyone else, a little bunch here and another bunch there .. all the time. It was fun and is a part of attending an amateur radio event. How many people can you meet and become friends with? A QCWA function is not like any other event. For those members it just works very well. Next year we travel to New Hampshire and that should be another great event.

Announcements

Effectively immediately we are discontinuing the sale of T - Shirts and Sweat Shirts. Sales have dropped off in the last several months and I think that it has run its course in popularity. We just were not receiving enough orders to warrant maintaining a full stock of sizes.

There are a few of both styles left in inventory. Where we can, we will sell the balance and then there will be no more in stock.

Domestic (USA) Life dues are going to be raised the first of June, 1995 to \$300. This is necessary so that we can keep in step with some increased costs.

For the Canadian members, effective immediately, they will now have an option of Life dues with publications at \$335 (US funds). Currently they can be a Life member and no publications and/or they could subscribe to publications on a 3 year basis. That can still be done, if they wish.

I think all of you will be happy to hear that we have several new Chapters, just organized. They are as follows:

Silver State Chapter # 190 NV
Monterey Bay Chapter # 191 CA
Puerto Rico Chapter # 192 PR

Listen for their members on the air and make them welcome. There are at least two other groups at work to establish Chapters and they should develop in the next few months. These good people have worked hard and now enjoy the thrill of having an active Chapter as a result of their efforts.



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Board Meeting

The Board meeting was a new approach for many of us. We had a new President and five new Board members to mix together. Just prior to the meeting our President, Lew McCoy, advised that he had received a letter from Larry Shima, WØPAN, advising that he would have to resign because of personal problems. The Board then held an election and Gladys Chase, W1VPF, was elected to fill Larry's position.

The meeting then went forth with Gladys joining us the next day. The general tenor of the entire meeting was one of growth. Plans were laid so that we can encourage some of the Directors to attend various amateur events across the country and help with some of the expenses. It appears that will become operational after the first of the year.

Whether it was the presence of the new faces and thoughts, or just the general atmosphere, it was absolutely different and more upscale than any Board meeting I have attended in the last several years .. and along with a few others on the Board I have seen my share of these meetings. It looks to me like we have a new breath of life for QCWA and that we are going to try and cover a lot of bases in the membership area.

Will you help us? Re-read Lew's first page column. New members are not hard to find .. you just have to find some and then, most important of all, ask them to join you in QCWA. Last year I sent out a list of At-Large members for each state to each Chapter in that state. From that extra mailing I heard from maybe six Chapters thanking us for that list and subsequent mail from those same Chapters indicated a lot of new Chapter members. Where were the rest of the Chapters?

Let us really start in and **each member get a new member for QCWA**. Do you know where that will lead? We have a tad over 10,000 active members and if each gets just one member, we can double our membership. Remember this is a proud and distinguished group and it is an honor to show that we are proud of having been licensed at least twenty-five years by being a member.

Spring Board Meeting

The Spring Board meeting will be held at Headquarters in April on the 7th and 8th, 1995. At that time the Board will review progress of some operations and plan ahead for some others. They will meet on the 7th and part of the 8th, and then will be free to return to their home areas.

Later in the month, April 28, 29 and 30th, 1995 we will be in attendance at Dayton doing our regular job of manning the booth with help from the Dayton group. If you are there, be sure to stop by and say hello and sign the log sheet.

Chapter Reports

During the early part of November I will start work on the Chapter Reports and the accompanying list of members that we have listed for the particular Chapter. As you will remember from past years the listing of members is on a legal size sheet and printed on both sides to give all the information we maintain on each member.

This year there will be a change in the report form, under the column labeled "STATUS". This will all be explained at the time of mailing, but I am going to include all DELINQUENT members that we have recorded for the Chapter. They will show a "Z" in the status column.

Go after these people. In one trial experience with a Chapter, they really went out and contacted all the listed delinquent members. Know what happened? They had twenty delinquent members. They came back with a report of 1 SK who had not previously been reported and some 15 of the remaining members sent in their dues. That is not bad at all. We obtained 15 renewals and they received 15 new Chapter members back into the group. One favorite statement was made "We didn't think you people cared about us anymore." See, all you have to do is show some attention and ask them back into the group.



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Headquarters

I am sure all of you remember that on each new application there is a one time \$3.00 fee to set up the application, enter the new member into the data base and also to make up the IBM back-up card. Following that their membership card is produced and that along with some other items is mailed to the new member.

One of the delays is when the \$3.00 is not enclosed. Then we have to write and explain and when the additional amount arrives we process the application, with some delay experienced by the applicant. Try to check this amount for each new member.

Also, when renewing the \$3.00 is not necessary. It is only for the new member. This generally happens to a delinquent member that has been out a few years and comes back into the group. They have already paid the \$3.00, they already have a membership number, they are already in the data base. All we have to do is activate their membership as of the date we receive the request.

The use of the "Care" packages is continuing to receive much attention. If you haven't tried it, let us know in time for the next hamfest that you wish to attend and man a table.

One Chapter came through with a great request .. "Send us 10 caps .. we are going to outfit the Chapter. " We did, they did....Caps are \$5.00 and worth the price. Let us know and we can provide them quickly. The same applies to the embroidered patches with the QCWA Logo on them (again \$5.00) and we do have plenty of decals.

Special Award Meeting

This has been mentioned before, but bears repeating again. When you get your printout of the Chapter members, inspect the reverse side where awards are recorded. There is a **FL** column, for first licensed, and then following are the awards starting at fifty years and increasing by five year increments. Do a little math for each of your members and then make a list for us.

We will prepare the certificates for you and get them in the mail, generally within a couple of days. Then plan your next meeting as an Award Meeting and make the presentations. If you haven't tried this I promise you will have a lot of fun and your members will appreciate it very much.

Also remember the Meritorious Award, which each Chapter is allowed one a year. You decide upon the member and let us know and describe the accomplishments for us .. then we can prepare and mail that certificate to you for a meeting.

NEWSLETTERS

I am very impressed with the quality of the Chapter Newsletters that come to Headquarters. With each issue they get better and some new quirks are developed. Most of this is due to the ability to do these publications on a computer and then turn out good copies with a laser jet printer. Here, at Headquarters, I use Page Maker 5.0 for all of our forms and for any publication work that we do. Along with it we have Corel Draw for special effects that might be needed. I intend to add a scanner in the very near future so that we can include some interesting items in this HLR as well as some other things that we produce.

The latest newsletter to be delivered here is from the Northern Lights Chapter # 92, and they have really worked at producing an interesting publication for their members.

One Newsletter came with a color picture printed on the front page .. I inquired and they told me that the person who really puts the newsletter together works in an office that had just received a color copier and the boss told her to go ahead. Another newsletter comes with pictures in it, and it turns out the editor has a special camera which saves the pictures digitally and then transfers those pictures to their newsletter.

Why this noise about Newsletters ? Well, there seems to be some correlation between an active Chapter and a Newsletter that is well done. I noticed this in our ham club. We started a newsletter, we have over 50 at the meetings (we used to have 15 or 20) and everyone is interested. The same thing is showing with our Chapters.

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